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FEB 01 2007

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-7, 16, 18 and 20-21 are pending. Previously withdrawn claims have been canceled as non-elected claims. The claims have been amended. No new matter has been introduced. Reexamination and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Claim Amendments

Claims 20 and 21 have been amended.

In a telephone call with the Examiner on February, 2007, the Examiner noted that a number of corrections needed to be made to the pending claims. More specifically, the Examiner specified certain claims reciting "a nucleotide sequence" needed to be changed to "the nucleotide sequence" to ensure accuracy in reference to the precise nucleotide sequence recited. The Applicant thanks the Examiner for taking the time to make this clarification and has submitted the requested corrections.

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Conclusion

The Applicant respectfully requests the allowance of the claims which are now pending. If the Examiner would like to discuss any further matters relating to this application, the undersigned attorney can be reached at the Los Angeles telephone number (213) 488-7100.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 03-3975 (ref. 81289-294309). The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN LLP

Date: 2/1/2007

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